



Regional Service Council Minutes Region # 3

Meeting Date: February 24, 2014
Meeting Location: Juvenile Justice Center
1000 South Michigan
South Bend, IN

Council Members Present: James Pippin, Regional Manager DCS; Michael Carroll, Director Marshall County DCS; Linda Cioch, Director St. Joseph County; Erin Shidler, Director Kosciusko DCS; Tony Sommer, Director Elkhart County DCS; Teresa Zornig, Division Manager St. Joseph County DCS; Amanda Herendeen, Kosciusko County DCS; William Horton, St. Joseph County DCS; Pam Whisman, Marshall County DCS.

Council Members Absent: Judge Duane Huffer, Kosciusko County Superior Court; Judge Curtis Palmer; Joe Wine, Foster Parent; Magistrate Deborah Domine; Don Phillips, Bashor; James Pheilbush; Scott Filley.

Others In Attendance: Rachel Tobin-Smith, SCAN/Community Partners; Joni Tusing, Regional Financial Manager; Jeff Bedree, Regional Service Coordinator; Mike Marchi, Memorial Epworth; Janet Rathberger, DCS; Libby Martin, LSSIN; Debbie Branfield, Crossroad; Jean Reed, Dockside; Amy Rosen, Oaklawn; Marzy Bauer, YWCA North Central; Leah Plank, CAPS; Sean McCrindle, Bashor; Shotunus Peterson, YSB; Melissa McWilliams, Lifeline.

Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 10:01 a.m. by James Pippin.

1. Welcome/Introductions of Members and Guests.
2. Approval of Minutes. Minutes of 1/13/2014 reviewed. Erin Shidler motioned approval of the minutes as written. Michael Carroll seconded. All in favor. 0 Opposed. Motion carried.
3. Community Partners Update. Rachel Tobin-Smith reported on December financials and January service statistics. Financials for the first 6 months should be at 50% we are at 51% which is great, not overspending. December actual \$117,287. YTD actual \$935,508. We need to be drawing down \$147,000 monthly. Statistic report changed to represent a truer picture with expanded categories. 68 enrolled and can take in 90 by end of month. 781 families served to date. 155 referrals came in this month; 37 referrals in progress, 68 enrolled, 22 declined services, 3 failed to engage despite outreach, 11 inappropriate referrals (either in services with Healthy Families, DCS, or a probation case), 10 unable to contact, 1 unable to locate. Outcomes reviewed; 98% of the families get some information and referral from us, 57% of our families are engaged. Second NCFAS improved at 93% having shown improvement in one or more areas of the NCFAS. Rachel stated, "Providers are doing a great job really helping families". DCS is still the largest referral source in January, received referrals from all four counties. Tony asked for probation clarification; "if there is another child that is identified in the family that is not on probation, and only if the probation child is in residential placement can they go in to help the other child in the family". Mary Ann West has taken over the Prevention Services. Rachel will give her a couple of months to settle in and ask again for a clear interpretation of policy from Central Office, Rachel will reiterate to the council. Local Prevention dollars are set contracts, 57% YTD. In April they may need to shift money if under spent.

4. Service Update. Jeff Bedree, Regional Service Coordinator, FCT model has 6 referrals. Completed our motivational interview training with selected providers, contracts pending. We have dates selected for our Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy starting shortly and will last until June/July. Service mapping is on comprehensive model only. Jeff will get with LODs and Jamie on how that will work. Dion Smith is the new Regional Service Coordinator for Region 3. Jeff is transitioning out. Fall RFPs, opened two services in our area. Support Groups for Resource Families – so that resource families can come together as groups and discuss what is happening. Resource Family Support Services – Face to face home-based case work to stabilize placements for our kids. Informed council of proposals from The Villages and Bowen Center, The Villages selected serving all 4 counties and the Bowen Center selected serving 2 counties. Proposal received from Center for Positive Change for Resource Family Support Services. Council has reviewed all information.

Support Groups for Resource Families, Teresa Zornig motioned to accept The Villages and Bowen Center proposals as outlined. Erin Shidler seconded. All in favor. 0 Opposed. Motion carried

Resource Family Support Services, Teresa Zornig motioned to accept Center for Positive Change, The Villages, and Bowen Center proposals as outlined. William Horton seconded. All in favor. 0 Opposed. Motion Carried.

5. Regional Budget Update. Joni Tusing, Regional Financial Manager reported on the budget through January, expenditures for the month \$2,473,770. Numbers are low compared to past three previous months. February totals were in the same area, we are getting level but Joni will keep eye on it. Overall we should be at 58% of the budget, we are at 52%. YTD Comparison Report reviewed. Near budget limit, the region is doing well. Jamie added, “We are doing a very good job”.

6. County Updates.

Marshall County -Michael Carroll, Director, process of hiring FCM this week. Working on final plans for candlelight vigil.

Kosciusko County - Erin Shidler, Director, office staff at 10 Family Case Managers including newly hired assessment FCM starting today.

St Joseph County –Linda Cioch, Director, announced that this is Terri’s last meeting; the Division Manager position is opened on the Job Bank and closes Friday. Susan Bartley, FCM, passed away this month. Five openings for FCM position to be filled. Working on candlelight vigil, teaming up with the Silver Hawks.

Elkhart County -Tony Sommer, Director, hired 1 FCM starting next cohort. Shared Attorney has started. Trying to keep up with reports and get to full staff.

Regional – Jamie Pippin, Regional Manager, announced Christine Beckman Johnson is leaving; Todd Heim will be new Clinical Specialist. FCM positions have opened around the State. DCS has been approved to hire 110 new case managers in keeping with the 12/17 caseload. Region 3 opened 1 new position in Kosciusko County and 5 positions in St. Joseph County. DCS is being responsive to caseloads to give our FCM the best chance to succeed. Jamie will not be here in March, he has Military duties in Alabama.

Tony Sommer motioned adjournment. Teresa Zornig seconded. Meeting adjourned 10:32a.m.